

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Mahanthappa et al.

Serial No: 09/418,221

Filed: October 14, 1999

For: Neuroprotective Methods and  
Reagents

Attorney Docket No. CIBT-P02-043

Art Unit: 1646

Examiner: M. Brannock


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**REPLY UNDER 37 CFR 1.111**

Sir:

This amendment is being filed in reply to the outstanding Office Action, mailed April 17, 2002, in connection with the above application. Please enter the following amendments:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

➤ On Page 7, please replace lines 1-8 with the following text:

D' In yet other embodiments of the present invention, the *ptc* therapeutic alters the level of expression of a *hedgehog* protein, a patched protein or another protein involved in the intracellular signal transduction pathway of *patched*. In this regard, the *ptc* therapeutic can be an antisense construct which inhibits the expression of a protein which is involved in the signal transduction pathway of *patched* and the expression of which antagonizes *hedgehog*-mediated signals. For example, the antisense molecule can be one which hybridizes to a *patched* transcript or genomic sequence, such as 5'-GTCCTGGCGCCGCGCCGCGCGTCGCC, 5'-TTCCGATG-